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## THE WAR IN THE SOUTH AND WEST.

It is stated that the Confederate forces before Cincinnati have again fallen back, and on Wednesday were between Damersville and Falmouth. The former is twenty miles from Cincinnati and the latter forty. Both of these towns are on the Covington and Lexington railroad.

By an arrival at New York the intelligence is received of some important movements on the Mississippi. A Federal gunboat arrived at New Orleans on the 8th instant, having run past the batteries at Vicksburg, and in passing Natchez, shelled the city until a national flag was hoisted. The boat then destroyed Bayou Sara, and passed down the river, encountering two batteries at Port Hudson, which she soon silenced. The gunboat sustained no damage in any of the engagements.

It is reported that the Confederate forces in New Mexico, under Col. Sibley, were met near Fort Fillmore by Col. Canby's forces and defeated, all their train captured and one hundred and fifty men taken prisoners.

### The Position.

[From the Washington Republican.]

Various dispatches, giving details of the recent battles, will be found in our news columns. More authentic and full accounts will be looked for with the deepest solicitude.

The general impression made by the accounts as yet received, is not unfavorable. The Federal troops fought with great bravery, and it is certain that a good many Confederate prisoners were taken. Nevertheless, the facts which seem to be agreed on, that the contest was not renewed up to noon yesterday, and that Gen. McClellan had granted an armistice for the burial of the dead, give to the affair somewhat the aspect of a drawn battle.

If such shall finally prove to have been the fact, it is not so satisfactory as a victory, but it is still far from being a disaster. While the public sensibilities are pained by the thickening accounts of the death and wounds of the brave soldiers, it must still be recollected that such a war as this is, cannot be terminated without severe battles, and that such battles are attended with losses terrible for both sides.

**A RAT SUCKING A COW.**—A correspondent of the London Field wrote to that paper the following:—On going into my cowshed a short time since to see a newly-calved cow, I found her lying down, quietly chewing the cud, and, to my astonishment, I observed a huge rat lying at full length between her hind legs, sucking vigorously at one of her teats. My first impression was that the rat was dead, however he had got there; but I soon discovered the bright eye of the rat turned toward me, the point of the cow's teat in his mouth, and the quick suction movement of his jaws and throat. So fascinated did the rat appear with his refreshing occupation that he took no further notice of my entrance than by watching me out of the corner of one eye, and was not even disturbed by my calling to the gardener, at the lower end of the yard, to come and witness the novel sight.

## MILITARY DICTATORS AND DIRECTORS.

The Washington Intelligencer discountenances the whole idea of a Military Directory, and especially the New York War Committee, whose plans to place Gen. Fremont at the head of an independent corps have been prohibited by the Government. It seems that a like movement has been on foot in the North West. The Lafayette (Indiana) Courier says:

"It violates no confidence in the statement that Hon. H. S. Lane, Judge Test, Jesse L. Williams, Hon. Richard W. Thompson, Cassius M. Clay, and other representative men of the Northwest, have recently been in Washington urging upon the President the acceptance of a proposition for the consolidation of the troops of the Northwestern States into one grand division under the command of Governor Morton. It is added that these parties pledged themselves in behalf of the great Northwest to crush out the rebellion from the line of Virginia southward, in ninety days, and leave to New York, Pennsylvania, and the east, the task of encountering Lee and his desperate legions."

Following closely upon this announcement we see it stated that, at the recent "Union meeting" held in Chicago, Illinois, a resolution was passed in favor of holding "a Convention of Governors of the Loyal States," to give a new impetus to the Government in its conduct of the war. The inspirations of this call are explained by a German radical paper of the West, the Westliche Post, which recommends Gov. Yates to take the initiative, and Cleveland to be the place of meeting. The purpose of this Committee of Governors is thus set forth:

"Our times demand imperiously extraordinary measures. The co-operation of Governors recommends itself in many respects. The Governors are at least better acquainted with the views of the people than the President and his cabinet, who occupy a more isolated position, removed from contact with the people.—It can also not be denied that most of the Governors have acquired the confidence of the people of their respective States by their patriotism, zeal and energy. They will be able to prove radical faults in the conduct of the war and in the entire management of our war affairs, and their position will give them an authority to demand a change in this respect which no self-constituted committee and no local deputations could assume. The people of all the States ought, therefore, to support and urge this Convention of the loyal Governors in every way."

While upon the subject of the Radicals and their purposes, we note the following in the Washington letter to the "Herald," dated September 16:

"Most astounding disclosures have been made here to-day, by letters and verbal communications from prominent politicians showing that a vast conspiracy has been set on foot by the radicals of the Fremont faction to depose the present administration, and place Fremont at the head of a provisional government. One of these letters asserts that one feature of this conspiracy is the proposed meeting of Governors of the Northern States to request President Lincoln to resign to enable them to carry out their scheme. The writer in conclusion, says Gov. Andrew and Senator Wilson are probably at the bottom of the movement. It is learned that the fifty thousand independent volunteers proposed to be raised under the aus-

pices of the New York National Union Defence Committee were intended to be a nucleus for the organization of a Fremont conspiracy. Failing in this, it is stated that a secret organization has been inaugurated, the members of which are known by the name of Roundhead. It is intended that this organization shall number two hundred thousand men in arms, who shall raise the standard of the conspirators and call General Fremont to the command. They expect to be joined by two thirds of the army of the Union now in the field, and that eventually one million of armed men will be gathered around their standard. This startling disclosure is vouched for by men of high repute in New York and other Northern States."—N. Y. Express

How true all this is we do not pretend to say. It is probable much of it is unreliable, for we see that Gen. Cassius M. Clay affirms that the allegations, as far as he is concerned, are untrue.

### Reports from Richmond.

[From the Washington Star.]

Two gentlemen, who were among the 5300 paroled prisoners who left Richmond on Sunday afternoon arrived in this city to-day, and from them we gather the following particulars:

There are but few troops in Richmond, the Confederates having sent all north. They continue to arrive from the South, but are sent on as fast as possible. The home guards now perform sentinel duty at the prisons.

There are now in confinement at the Libbey prison, 180 officers of General Pope's army, including Gen. Prince, and all confined in one room; the Confederates still discriminating between them and other officers. There are also in confinement 150 citizens, among whom are sixty of the nurses who went from Washington. There are also 150 invalids in the hospitals.

When the prisoners captured in Pope's army were first taken to Richmond they were not allowed to make any purchases whatever, or to have any bedding, and were fed on common soldier's fare. Since Pope's superseding they are, however, treated somewhat better; and the late release and clearing out of the prisoners has giving them much more room, and thus rendered them more comfortable.

A lieutenant of Pope's army was shot in the arm, by a sentinel, for looking out of the prison window; and a citizen of Philadelphia was killed by a shot aimed at another soldier for the same offence.

Our informant saw (very indistinctly, however, at a distance,) the Merrimac No. 2.—She is built after the pattern of the "Galena," and appears to have all her iron plating on.—She is pierced for eight guns.

All the loungers about Richmond have been arrested, and it was rumored that all Marylanders in Richmond who could bear arms and would not join the Maryland Line Regiment, would be compelled to leave the Confederacy. (?)

The following are the prices which the prisoners were obliged to pay for the articles enumerated, viz: Butter, \$1 per lb.; potatoes, \$8 per bushel; onions, 75 cents per doz.; tomatoes 50 cts. per doz.; tea, \$16 per lb.; coffee, \$2 50 per lb.; sugar, 85 cts. per lb.; matches, 25 cts. per box. Tobacco also sells for just double the amount paid here.

It is ordered by the War Department that medical purveyors be required to give bond in the sum of \$75,000